

28 March 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR:

SUBJECT : Handbook on the Sino-Soviet Dispute

1. We propose to compile a handbook in four parts:

(a) a brief introductory essay on the current state of the Sino-Soviet relationship, to include a transitional paragraph explaining that the relationship has evolved over the past decade to this unprecedentedly tense point;

(b) a chronology of the dispute from its first appearance (as a limited dispute) in February 1956 to its present across-the-board character, taking it through the Soviet party congress which is about to meet, and highlighting perhaps as many as 20 of the capsule items in the chronology which can be considered as watersheds in the relationship (e.g., the Chinese response to deStalinization in 1956 and their subsequent intervention in East European affairs, Mao's pressure on the Russians at the Moscow conference of 1957, the Soviets demands of 1958 for control over nuclear weapons in China, Khrushchev's trip to the U.S. in 1959, the withdrawal of the Soviet advisors in 1960, the open quarrel at the Soviet party congress in 1961, the Chinese attacks on Soviet behavior in the Cuban crisis of 1962, the Chinese camp's boycott of the Moscow meeting of the parties in March 1965, the current Chinese refusal to attend the Soviet party congress);

(c) a set of brief essays (one or two pages each) corresponding to the highlighted items of the chronology, which will treat these developments in greater detail; and

(d) an Annex, to include a detailed treatment of Soviet aid to, and the withdrawal of Soviet aid from,

the Chinese economy and military establishment; an explanation of the 'hard' information (as distinguished from propaganda and party letters) illuminating the state of the relationship; a bibliography of classified studies on the relationship which CIA has produced in the past decade; and a number of graphics.

2. We propose that the study be prepared jointly by O/CI and the DD/I Research Staff, which have led the intelligence community on this subject and have written on it in great volume, with a contribution by O/RR. We estimate that the study will require about five weeks of work, and can be ready on or about 2 May.